II. REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-12, 14-15, 18, 20, 22-23, 26-27, 29 and 31 are pending.

The examiner stated that claims 15, 18, 20, 22-23, 26-27, 29 and 31 are allowed.

The examiner stated that claims 4 and 11 were objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 8 to incorporate the limitations of claims 4 and 11 and the intervening claims 2 and 9 in accordance with the examiner's statement of allowable subject matter.

Claims 2, 4, 9, and 11 have been canceled.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Rudolf O. Siegesmund
Registration No. 37,720
Gordon & Regis I.I.P.

Gordon & Rees LLP

Suite 2800

2100 Ross Avenue

Dallas, Texas 75201

214-231-4660

214-461-4053 (fax)

rsiegesmund@gordonrees.com